

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:EHURWITZ:EY

APPROVED BY EA - MR. HUMMEL

D/HA - MR. PALMER

S/S -SEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215019

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: KS, US, PFOR, MASS

SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF NOTE TO AMBASSADOR HAHM ON SECTION
412 OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND
ARMED EXPORT CONTROL ACT OF 1976

1. ASS'T. SECRETARY HUMMEL CALLED IN AMBASSADOR HAHM
AUGUST 30 TO DELIVER NOTE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN KOREA IN
COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 412 OF SUBJECT ACT. TEXT OF NOTE
FOLLOWING SEPTTEL.

2. IN DELIVERING NOTE, HUMMEL SAID QUOTE: I AM GIVING
TO YOU NOW A DIPLOMATIC NOTE IN ACCORDANCE WITH A
PROVISION IN OUR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION. AS WE
HAVE SAID BEFORE, WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE STATUS OF
HUMAN RIGHTS IN KOREA, AND OUR CONCERN HAS DEEP ROOTS IN
OUR SOCIETY AND TRADITIONS UNQUOTE.

3. HAHM REPLIED WITH LONG AND FAMILIAR JUSTIFICATION OF
LIMITS ON DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS IN KOREA AS BEING DICTATED BY
"WAR FOOTING" ON WHICH ROK NECESSARILY FINDS ITSELF. HE
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SAID HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND ATTITUDE OF POLITICAL DIS-

SENTERS, AND PARTICULARLY FORMER PRESIDENT YUN PO-SON, WHO SHOULD BE AS ANXIOUS AS GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS TO BACK UNITY OF ROK IN FACE OF THREAT FROM NORTH. HE SAID GOVERNMENT MUST TAKE TOUGH STANCE, SINCE RESTRAINT ALWAYS INTER-

PRETED BY DISSENTERS AS SIGN OF WEAKNESS AND LEADS TO FURTHER DISRUPTION. HAHM INTERPRETED MYONGDONG-STYLE DISSENT AS FIRST STEP, WHICH IF UNCHECKED, WOULD RESULT IN STREET DEMONSTRATIONS AND PROBABLE DEMISE OF REGIME AND STRONG ANTI-COMMUNIST FORCE IT REPRESENTS. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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